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### **Registrar of Voters' Non-Traditional Poll Worker Recruitment Showing Early Results**

**(Santa Ana)** – The “non-traditional” recruiting efforts for volunteer poll workers on Election Day (November 2, 2004) are showing early results for the Registrar of Voters.

“Initial response to this new type of recruitment effort is encouraging,” said Neal Kelley, Chief Deputy Registrar of Voters. “However, we know we have a lot of work ahead of us. We are in need of at least 7,000 poll workers for the upcoming election.”

Orange County’s need for so many poll workers is due to the large number of registered voters and staffing needs for nearly 1,300 polling locations. This is in sharp contrast to Riverside County’s need of 4,000 and San Bernardino County’s need of 2,000 workers.

Neal Kelley has been busy with many functions within the department, but recruitment is a high priority. To date 4,500 individuals have responded to recruitment efforts showing an interest in working the polls. One recent mailing to retired Orange County employees inundated the Registrar’s office. “Our recruitment staff was working long hours responding to the flood of calls,” said Mr. Kelley.

Another component of the “non-traditional” recruitment efforts has been targeted at the business community. Mr. Kelley has developed a recruitment presentation and has presented a similar message throughout the County, “Please help us on Election Day.” Chambers of Commerce members, business groups, service clubs and local employers have responded by volunteering.

At a recent community meeting, Orange County Supervisor Chris Norby and Mr. Kelley appealed to the group for volunteers. “People were signing up on the spot, which shows the importance the community has placed on this election,” Mr. Kelley said. “Our poll workers are an outstanding group of civic minded, dedicated volunteers. We just need to continue to recruit more of them.”